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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Chesser, et ale

Serial No.: 08/869,109

Filed: June 4, 1997

Title: Controlled Hydration of Starch in High Density Brine Dispersion

Group Art Unit: 1721

Examiner: C. H. Kelly

Atty. Docket: B154-09245C-US

Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks Washington, DC 20231

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Enclosed is a Response to Final Office Action mailed from the Patent and Trademark Office on February 9, 2000, for the referenced patent application.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments related to the filing of this Response to Deposit Account No. 02-0429 (B154-09245C-US), maintained by Baker Hughes Incorporated.

4-6-00

Date

Respectfully submitted,

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TO 1700 MAIL ROOM

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING:

I hereby certify that this paper, along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed, is being forwarded to the Commissioner of Patent and Trademarks. Washington, DC 20231, via the United States Postal Service, First Class Mail, postage prepaid on

(a) day of April . 2000.

Ann Marie Alaniz